

FRIDAY
Partly cloudy
83/61

SATURDAY
40% Chance
of T-Storms
81/61

SUNDAY
40% Chance
of T-Storms
79/61

C THE CARRBORO CITIZEN



PHOTO BY KEN MOORE
Clusters of little green flowers hang beneath Smilax leaves.

FLORA BY KEN MOORE

Little green flowers

I've always been fascinated with greenish flowers and I wonder why so many of our native vines have them.

On your next outdoors excursion, keep a keen eye focused on the native greenbriers or catbriers, wild grapes and the not-so-welcome poison ivy. During this mid-spring season, you can spy clusters of greenish-yellow flowers hanging beneath the leaves of these common vines climbing trees and fences and scrambling over field edges everywhere.

My favorite is the greenbrier, *Smilax rotundifolia*, being the most common of several species in our region. I have allowed a volunteer smilax full reign over the trellis along my deck where I look forward to the return of little green flower clusters each spring. I also never tire of the heart-shaped leaves sprawling here and there.

If you take a closer look, you'll find clusters of tiny green lily-like flowers hanging beneath the leaves. The smilax vine scrambling along my deck is a male, so I don't get the clusters of black berries that birds enjoy on the female vines in the late fall. The shoots and berries of the many species of smilax are important food for a diversity of wildlife, including black bear.

Cut stems are effective in flower arrangements throughout the year. Being drought tolerant, smilax vines are attractive all during the growing season and birds take advantage of the climbing stems on my deck for cover and easy access to the bird feeder. Whenever it begins to over stretch, it is easily trimmed back. Not all greenbriers are thorny catbriers, so we need not curse them.

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Smith Level Road decision draws comments
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Carrboro Day set for Sunday

BY SUSAN DICKSON
Staff Writer

As the warm weather rolls in and residents take to the outdoors, Carrboro will kick off another May with its annual Carrboro Day celebration this Sunday on the Town Hall grounds.

The annual celebration started in 1995, when the Carrboro Board of Aldermen adopted a Carrboro Day Philosophy stating, "As Carrboro grows in population and its boundaries expand, its citizens need opportunities to enlarge their circle of acquaintances." Ac-

cording to the philosophy, the day was modeled after small-town homecomings and festivals in Europe to provide an opportunity for people to meet and celebrate living together in Carrboro.

The event will have a little something for everyone, with live music, food, children's activities and interactive field games. It also will feature educational displays by OWASA, public works, the police and the fire department.

Live music will play throughout the event, with The Village Band, Gilbert Neal, the Will McFarlane Band and more.

Keeping with tradition, Carrboro Day will also feature several distinguished local poets, with readings in the Town Hall Board Room from 3 to around 5:30 p.m. Winners of the Carrboro Youth Poetry Contest will kick off the readings.

Also in Town Hall, Carrboro history will be reviewed from 2 to 4 p.m. in the AV Room.

For those with green thumbs, the Carrboro Community Garden Club will host a plant exchange. Those wishing to participate should bring healthy indoor or outdoor plants to exchange

COMPLETE SCHEDULE SEE PAGE 7

for club members' plants. Club members will be available to share gardening advice, identify plants and provide information on plant species.

The town hopes that the event will be a trash-free one, and encourages all attendees to dispose of all recyclable material in the proper containers, which will be scattered throughout the area during the festivities.

The event runs from 1 to 7 p.m. on the Town Hall grounds. In case of rain, Carrboro Day will be held at the Century Center.



PHOTO BY KIRK ROSS
Ray Ramirez, who hosts the "Say It In Spanish" radio show on WCOM, talks about the station's programming with Sarah Auchincloss. WCOM, Carrboro's low-power FM radio station (103.5 FM) has been working to get the word out about its Spanish-language shows. On Tuesday, station volunteers set up shop in front of Don Jose's Tienda.

Carrboro legislation advances

BY KIRK ROSS
Staff Writer

CARRBORO — The legislative agenda for the town of Carrboro wasn't complicated when it was handed off to the local delegation, but once in Raleigh that changed.

A request to amend the town's charter to allow the town to pass ordinances to outlaw discrimination in housing was bogged down in a House committee after the N.C. Family Policy Council and Christian activists objected to the inclusion of discrimination because of gender identity and sexual orientation along with race, color, religion, sex, national origin, familial status or handicap.

And a bill aimed at making the town more energy efficient ran afoul of lobbyists for homeowner association groups who objected to rules that would prevent associations from cracking down on people who want

to set up solar panels, garden or dry their clothes on a clothesline.

State Sen. Ellie Kinnaird, who is shepherding both bills through the Senate, said although the outcome wasn't exactly what the town wanted, she was pleased that the bills were able to go through.

The energy efficiency legislation — Senate Bill 475 — had to be modified so that the rules would only apply to new developments, and a proposed remedy in which homeowners could file civil suits if prevented from adding green elements to their property was stripped from the bill. The changes to the bill brought it quick passage by the Senate last week. A House local-government committee is expected to review the bill soon, and if passed by that committee the bill will then move to the House committee on Energy and Energy Efficiency.

Carrboro Mayor Mark Chilton said the anti-discrimination bill —

House Bill 721 — was intended to help the town's rules better comply with federal law on discrimination in housing. He and board of aldermen member Lydia Lavelle testified in committee on the bill and were questioned by legislators who supported efforts to remove the provisions on sexual orientation and gender identity.

The bill was re-referred to the House Judiciary 1 committee last week after a substitute was offered that removed the provisions. A hearing on the new version of the bill has not been scheduled.

Chilton said it's likely now that both bills will pass. The crossover deadline for local bills is May 15. Any bill that has not passed either the House or Senate by then is effectively dead for the session.

"All in all, we're glad to have both go through," Chilton said. "It would have been better if both bills would have remained comprehensive."

State workers riled over cuts

BY KIRK ROSS
Staff Writer

CHAPEL HILL — State workers plan to rally at the Legislature Tuesday to try to convince legislators that recent pay cuts and health insurance hikes are hurting their ranks.

UNC Employee Forum chair Tommy Griffin said he's heard a steady stream of feedback after Gov. Beverly Perdue's actions Tuesday exacerbated what was already shaping up as a tough year for state employees.

Citing lower than projected revenues, the governor instituted a 0.5 percent annual pay cut for workers, which will be deducted out of their remaining paychecks for the fiscal year ending June 30. Perdue also is requiring workers to take a 10-hour unpaid furlough.

Griffin said state workers were braced for cuts and expecting the furloughs, but that the pay cuts caught many by surprise. State workers had been working to ease the pain of the furloughs by setting up voluntary ways to spread the burden around. But workers were not consulted about the pay cut.

"It's a big hit," Griffin said, "and the less pay you make the more it's going to hurt. I wish they'd have looked at it a little longer."

Griffin said higher-paid employees are probably going to weather the cut OK, but that bunching the half-percent cut into the last couple of months will have a big impact on those making less than \$30,000 a year.

"Many of the lower-paid workers are already working two jobs just to make ends meet," Griffin said. "They can't make up the difference."

Griffin said he hopes that 10,000 or more state employees turn out for lobby day, scheduled for Tuesday at the General Assembly.

"We have to say to [legislators], 'You can't always just put it on state employees,'" Griffin said.

State Sen. Ellie Kinnaird said she also doesn't like the way the cut was set up.

"It was very unfair to lower-income workers," she said. "If you make in the \$20,000 to \$30,000 range, it's a significant chunk out of your paycheck."

The only upside, Kinnaird said, was that there weren't job cuts, but that once you factor in higher health care deductibles and higher costs for family coverage, there's little doubt about the impact on state workers.

Find the happiness you seek

RECENTLY . . .
By Valerie Schwartz

If I could, this column would begin like my last one, wishing you could *hear* this story. This one too has dancers in it — but the dancers this time will be complementing the main sounds, which will come from the Women's Voices Chorus.

In its 16th season, this show, titled "Cheek to Cheek," will be the first time that dancers will accompany each song. And though the title may conjure images of Fred Astaire and sounds of Irving Berlin — which it includes, along with a taste of Duke Ellington, Cole Porter and Samuel Barber — the show reaches far beyond homegrown favorites to include music and dance from South Africa, Slovenia, Brazil, Argentina, Russia, Italy, Austria and other international locales.

The expansion of their repertoire has pushed the women of the chorus in more ways than one.

"We're singing songs in 11 different languages and we've memorized four pieces," said chorus president Sue Gidwitz. "We're hoping the dancing will expand our audience."

During a recent rehearsal, the chorus expressed the beat while singing a memorized Zulu number. As they sang, conductor Allan Friedman directed their movements as much as their voices. It was their first rehearsal number following warm-ups, but they sounded ready to raise the roof with their combined energy as Friedman instructed them to step to the left on the English words, raising their right hand then slapping their chests, reversing to the opposing side when singing in Zulu.

"Stick your butt out, bend your knees and clap



Dancers from the Prema Natya Vidyalaya School in Durham will add spice to the "Cheek to Cheek" song-and-dance production by Women's Voices Chorus on Saturday. CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

on four!" he called out as they sang through. "Who knows what Zulu-lation is?" he asked as the answer — a high-pitched roar — was returned back to him. As they continued the song, the joy and excitement intensified as the floor began to vibrate from the shifting feet.

"There is a long tradition of dancing associated with certain choral pieces in various folk traditions, and there is a long tradition of opera incorporating ballet into its structure, especially in French music," Friedman said outside the rehearsal. "The challenge of this project will be to ensure that the chorus and the dancers truly collaborate together, with each

partner inspiring the other to make exciting and moving art. With the final effect being one of symbiosis, not of leader and follower."

The concert will also include John Hanks, an instructor at Duke University, who will accompany the chorus and dancers on at least eight different percussion instruments, in addition to the piano, which the chorus' Deborah Coclans will play. Further distinguishing the tone of the show, the singers will pump up their usual black concert garb with brightly colored scarves from Sofia's in Carr Mill Mall.

Friedman told the singers after they rehearsed the Zulu piece, "Just shine. Put a smile on your face and enjoy it. Hopefully some of the audience will get up and dance."

And while you might not find (*all*) the happiness you seek, you'll hear those words and there will be plenty of room for dancing in the aisles at the Chapel Hill Bible Church, 260 Erwin Road, at 2 p.m. Saturday, May 2. Tickets will be available at the door, \$15 adults, \$5 students. For more information, visit womensvoiceschorus.org

Contact Valerie Schwartz at 923-3746 or valariekays@mac.com

Community Briefs

Student wins concerto competition

Cedar Ridge High School student and clarinetist Theo Chandler will perform with the Triangle Youth Philharmonic at Meymandi Concert Hall in Raleigh on Sunday at 3 p.m. Chandler, 16, won a concerto competition for the honor of performing at the concert. He will play Rossini: "Introduction, Theme and Variations for Clarinet."



Students host bike drive

Elementary school students will host a bike drive at Community Independent School on Saturday from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

The drive will be hosted by We Can Change Climate Change, a group of elementary school students who are trying to prevent global warming by encouraging energy-efficient practices. The group hopes to collect bikes in any condition to give to local bike co-ops who will fix and distribute them.

In addition, students will provide information about solar power, serve snacks from local food sources and lead games related to solar energy. To learn about solar energy, the students have visited Solar Tech and the NC School of Science and Math, where they viewed a solar air heater built by students. They hope to raise money through donations to build their own solar air heater.

The Community Independent School is located at 2089 Lamont Norwood Road in Pittsboro.

Community Calendar

THURSDAY, APRIL 30

Autism Lecture— Geri Dawson, the chief science officer for Autism Speaks, will give a lecture, "Recent Findings on the Diagnosis, Causes and Treatment of Autism." 1-3pm, Southern Human Services Center, 2501 Homestead Road. 913-4055

Poetry Day— Celebrate National Poem in Your Pocket Day by visiting the Carrboro Cybrary to receive a free poem to put in your pocket and share with friends. 9am-5pm, Carrboro Cybrary, 100 N. Greensboro St. 918-7387, co.orange.nc.us/library/cybrary

Ladies Night Out— Grab your girl friends to do some shopping, dining and relaxing in downtown Hillsborough, where merchants will offer flowers, wine tastings, hot teas, chair massages, tasty goodies, manicures, pedicures and live music. 6-9pm, Downtown Hillsborough, 732-2128, shophillsboroughnc.com

FRIDAY, MAY 1

Gardening Workshop— Participate in a short class on planting a container garden and enter your new container garden in a contest. Bring your own plants with extras to share. 9:30am-noon, Seymour Center, 2551 Homestead Road. Preregister 968-2070

Business Breakfast— The Chapel Hill-Carrboro Chamber of Commerce will hold a Business Before Hours Breakfast Briefing followed by an educational question-and-answer session. 7:30-9:30am, Aqueduct Conference Center. Free for Chamber members

SATURDAY, MAY 2

Choral Concert— Women's Voices Chorus will perform a

spring concert, "Cheek to Cheek," featuring music about dance with dancers from local studios. 2pm, Chapel Hill Bible Church, 260 Erwin Road. 684-3855, allan@duke.edu

Market Anniversary— The South Estes Farmers' Market will celebrate its first anniversary with more than 25 local vendors, live music by The Starlite Band, prizes, cooking demos and face painting. 8am-noon, outside of A Southern Season at University Mall

Disc Golf Opening— The Anderson Park Disc Golf Course Grand Opening and Tournament will be held. 9am registration, 10am tournament. Free entry. 918-7392, bmoore@townofcarrboro.org

Jordan Lake Festival— Arts & Music Festival with live music, arts and crafts on exhibit and food for every palate. 11am-7:30pm May 2-3, 1226 Martha's Chapel Road, Apex. jordanlakeartsandmusic.org

SUNDAY, MAY 3

Art Lecture— Beatriz Álvarez will discuss crafts and craftspeople from Chiapas and Oaxaca in English and Spanish. 5pm, CHICLÉ, 101 E. Weaver St., Suite G-1. 933-0398, chi-cle.com

Israel-Palestine Talk— Jimmy Johnson, military and globalization analyst with the Israeli Committee Against House Demolitions in Jerusalem, will address the Coalition for Peace with Justice. 2-4pm, Binkley Memorial Baptist Church, 1712 Willow Drive. 967-5181, peace-with-justice.org

Pittsboro's First Sunday— First Sunday offers a leisurely wander through the unique shops and galleries of Historic Pittsboro, with live music by The Fog Blues Band. Noon-4pm. 960-5892

Craft Sale— The second annual Crafts on the Green with handmade art by 30 area crafters will benefit 2PawsUp Animal Rescue. Noon-5pm, Southern Village green. 2pawsupcraftshow.blogspot.com

Art Fair— The Falconbridge Art Fair will feature food, entertainment and the work of more than 35 artisans to benefit Residential Services Inc. 1-5pm, Falconbridge Community Club, 6400 Falconbridge Road. riverstilbury@yahoo.com

Iran Talk— UNC Professor Carl Ernst will discuss current US-Iran relations. 1:30pm, N.C. Ethical Cultural Society, 200 S. Elliott Road. Free

Silent Auction— An auction of art, goods and services with food, wine and live music to benefit The Women's Center Community Financial Counseling Program. 6:30-8:30pm, Carrboro Massage Therapy, 102 Ashe St. Free admission, donations accepted. carrboromassagetherapy.com

MONDAY, MAY 4

Fire Ant Workshop— Cooperative Extension agents will lead the workshop, Taking the Fire Out of Fire Ants. 7-9pm, Agriculture Building auditorium, Pittsboro. \$5. Preregister 542-8202 or jane.tripp@chathamnc.org

Speak UP! Event— The Foundation for a Sustainable Community will gather information about the concerns of the citizens of Carrboro and Chapel Hill and form a Community Advisory Board. 5:30-8:30pm, United Church Fellowship Hall, Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard. speakoutspakeup@gmail.com, sustainablefoundation.org

TUESDAY, MAY 5

Networking Event— The Chapel Hill-Carrboro Chamber of Commerce will hold a Young Professionals Networking event. 5:30-7:30pm, The Siena Hotel. \$10. Register online by May 3 at carolinachamber.org/events. 357-9980, wwoodyard@carolinachamber.org

THURSDAY, MAY 7

Job Search Workshop— Increase your employment options with tips and strategies for finding jobs online. 6-7pm, Chapel Hill Public Library. Free. 968-2780

SATURDAY, MAY 9

Unions Discussion— "Corporate Rule, Bailouts and Greed: Why We Need Unions," will feature the story of members of the Woodworkers Local Lodge W369 of the International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers. 3:30-5:30pm, Chapel Hill Public Library. 370-4114, trianglewilpf.org

Haw River Festival— The 20th Annual festival will feature live music, a silent auction of Clyde Jones' critters and paintings, food, nature walks, river monitoring and kids activities. 1-6pm, old Bynum Bridge. \$5, \$3 kids under 14, free for volunteers. 542-5790, hawriver.org

Ongoing

Cancer Support— Support groups for cancer patients and their families. cornucopiahouse.org

The Compassionate Friends

— Free self-help support for all adults grieving the loss of a child or sibling. Third Mondays, 7-8:30pm, Evergreen United Methodist Church. 967-3221, chapelhillctcf.org

DivorceCare— Support group for those separated or divorced. Mondays, 7pm, Orange United Methodist Church. 942-2825, connect2orange.org

Garden Tour— Free tour of the N.C. Botanical Garden's display gardens. Saturdays, 10am, in front of the Totten Center at the garden. 962-0522, ncbg.unc.edu

Garden Walk— Niche Gardens hosts guided garden walks with discussions on spring planting, garden maintenance, design and gardening for wildlife. Saturdays, 10am, 1111 Dawson Road, Chapel Hill. Free. 967-0078, www.nichegardens.com

Cancer Survivors Workshop— The UNC Lineberger Comprehensive Cancer Center offers "Cancer Transitions: Moving Beyond Treatment," to help cancer survivors bridge the gap between treatment and life following cancer. Tuesdays through May 5, 4-6:30pm, 1700 Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.

Job Search Meeting— A networking and support group for job hunters. Wednesdays, 9:30-11am, Binkley Baptist Church, 1712 Willow Drive. 942-4964

Computer Class— Chapel Hill Senior Net will offer a class in Computer Fundamentals. Mondays and Wednesdays through May 13, 9-11am, Seymour Center, 2551 Homestead Road. 968-2070

Kids

Toddler Time— Thursdays, 4pm, Carrboro Branch Library. 969-3006

Preschool Story Time— Saturdays, 10:30am, Carrboro Branch Library. 969-3006

Express Yourself!— Art program for ages 3-8 & their caregivers. Saturdays, 10:45-11:15am, 11:30am-noon, Kidzu Children's Museum, 105 E. Franklin St. \$2. 933-1455, kidzuchildrensmuseum.org

Garden Story Time— Children ages 3 to 5 and their caregivers are invited to come read theme-based nature tales and participate in activities in the garden. Thursdays through Aug. 27, 10-11am, North Carolina Botanical Garden. \$5 per family. Preregister 962-0522, ncbg.unc.edu

Volunteers

RSVP 55+ Volunteer Program— Seeks volunteers at least 55 years of age and over who would like assistance in finding an opportunity that matches their interests. 968-2056, co.orange.nc.us/aging/RSVPindex.asp

Meals on Wheels— Seeks volunteers to deliver meals and/or bake simple desserts for recipients in the Chapel Hill/Carrboro area. 942-2948

Do you have anything for one of our calendars?

Send your submissions to calendar@carrborocitizen.com

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SATURDAY, MAY 2 @ 11am-6pm

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News Briefs

OWASA proposes rate increase

The OWASA board of directors has proposed a 9.75 percent rate increase for monthly water and sewer charges.

The proposed rate increase would raise a monthly bill from \$68.24 to \$74.92 for a typical individually metered residence using 5,000 gallons a month. If the increase is approved, it would take effect Oct. 1. The proposed increase reflects continuing low water demand and reduced revenue from new-development connections due to the slow economy.

The board will hold a public hearing regarding the proposed rate changes, its 2009-10 draft budget, the 2010-14 Capital Improvements Budget and the 15-Year Capital Improvements Program on May 28. The board could take final action on the budget and proposed rate increase as soon as June 11.

The public hearing will be held at 7 p.m. on May 28 at the Chapel Hill Town Hall on Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard. All customers are invited to attend and speak or to provide comments by email to webmaster@owasa.org or by letter to 400 Jones Ferry Road, Carrboro, N.C., 27510.

Driver pleads no contest in pedestrian death

James Willie Orr, the Chapel Hill Transit bus driver charged with misdemeanor death by vehicle in connection with the death of a pedestrian last fall, pleaded no contest on Tuesday.

Orr, 65, was driving a Chapel Hill Transit bus when it struck Valerie Hughes, 33, at the intersection of South Columbia Street and Mason Farm Road. She later died at UNC Hospitals. Orr was terminated as an employee of the town shortly after.

He was sentenced to a 45-day suspended sentence and 100 hours of community service.

UNC-NOW community meeting tonight

The steering committee of United with the Northside Community Now (UNC-NOW) will host a community meeting tonight (Thursday) to push for action on points set forth earlier this month in their open letter to the Town of Chapel Hill, the Greenbridge partners and community members.

According to a UNC-NOW press release, the group hopes to “engage attendees in a constructive conversation on how we can move forward collectively to ensure that social equity becomes an equal leg of the triple bottom line model for development set forth by the Town and Greenbridge.”

Tensions between residents and the Greenbridge developers rose recently after someone posing as a Greenbridge representative sent an email to members of the media that said the development would cease all sales of the property’s units. In addition, police recently discovered anti-Greenbridge graffiti on the Libba Cotton Bike Path.

The meeting will be the third Sustaining OurSelves meeting, organized by the NAACP, the Interdenominational Ministerial Alliance and EmPOWERment Inc. It will be held at St. Joseph’s CME Church at 510 W. Rosemary St.

Town to declare May 4 ‘Anoop Day’

The Town of Chapel Hill will declare May 4 Anoop Day in honor of Chapel Hill native Anoop Desai, who was recently voted off of the top-rated reality show “American Idol.”

Desai made it to the round of the top seven before being voted off last week. He will attend Monday’s Chapel Hill Town Council meeting, where council members and Mayor Kevin Foy will present him with the key to the city and the proclamation declaring May 4 Anoop Day in Chapel Hill.

A reception will be held from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. at the Carolina Club on the UNC campus on Monday to honor Desai. In addition, Desai will say hello to fans at Robert’s at the Franklin Hotel on West Franklin Street on Sunday from 4 to 6 p.m.

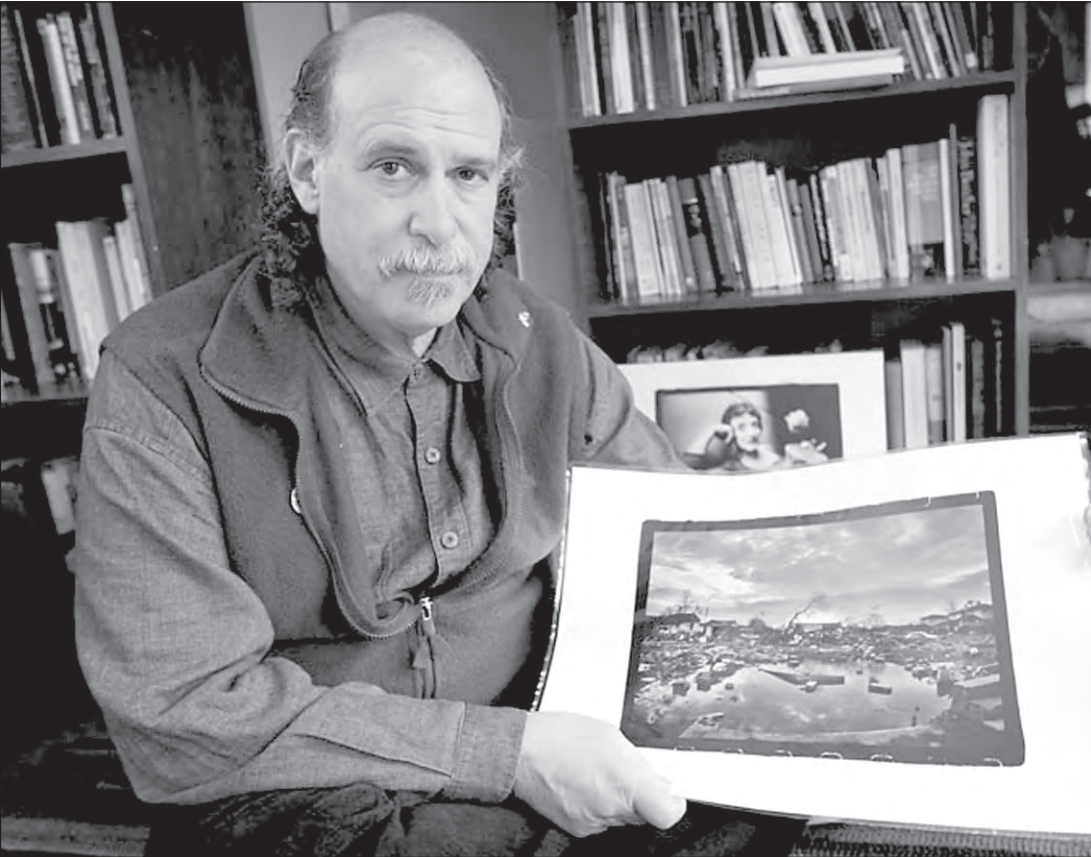
OWASA to mow and clear easements

OWASA will resume the annual mowing, clearing and inspection of its public sewer easements in early May.

The easement-clearing work includes trimming trees and shrubs where needed, and is intended to prevent roots from entering cracks and joints in sewers and to ensure safe access for inspections, maintenance and repair work.

Customers are encouraged to contact OWASA if they have trees, shrubs, fencing or structures that might need to be relocated from an easement. For more information, contact Thurman Green at 537-4224 or totgreen@owasa.org

Katrina survivor’s project captures life, hope and art in the wake of disaster



STAFF PHOTO BY CARLY BRANTMEYER
Donn Young, the director and curator of “40 Days & 40 Nights,” holds the project’s signature print, as he sits in his in-home office. Young made the photo after Hurricane Katrina hit New Orleans in 2005.

BY CARLY BRANTMEYER
Courtesy of the Carrboro Commons

“I have lived through hell,” said documentary photojournalist Donn Young, while recounting his experiences as a survivor of Hurricane Katrina in 2005, the storm that has been deemed one of the nation’s worst natural disasters.

Young moved to Carrboro in August 2008 and then to Chapel Hill last month, after living in New Orleans since the early 1980s.

The storm hit on Aug. 29, 2005. Young and his family evacuated on Aug. 27. Despite a sense of hopelessness and destruction after the storm hit, Young said he felt called back to New Orleans. For years, he had documented human rights, housing projects and jazz musicians.

After Katrina struck, he proposed to the state of Louisiana a vision for a project that would document the face of Hurricane Katrina and the destruction that flooded the city. Young, who became the director and curator for the project, called it “40 Days and 40 Nights.”

In response to his frustration with major publications like *National Geographic* and *Time* magazine cashing in on stories of New Orleans with “parachute journalists,” in for only a few days, Young said, “Let’s tell the stories ourselves.”

Because of his vision, Young was mandated “an essential employee of the state” and returned to New Orleans a few days after the storm.

“I had three mandates for myself that I was adamant about,” Young said. “First, I wanted to support local Louisiana artists. Secondly, I believed if you gave [the artists and their artwork] a home, they would come back to New Orleans. And lastly, I wanted to create a photo archive that would preserve photos for future generations, so they could understand what it was like.”

Young, who had been photographing for decades, tragically lost more than 1,350,000 prints and images in the storm. He approximates that he lost more than a million dollars in assets and potential stock value of his images, although he can’t put a calculable price on his loss.

He, like most other residents, thought he was going to be able go back to New Orleans to recover his belongings. But he said no one knew the Army Corps of Engineers had built the levee system so weak nor the extent of the hurricane’s strength.

When he evacuated, Young grabbed the important stuff: his family, his dogs and a couple of external hard drives. He left behind the rest: a lifetime of negatives and prints.

“All of us in New Orleans were really fractured,” Young said. “We had no idea of what [tomorrow] or

garage.

Like other natives of New Orleans, Young was homeless. He lived in New Orleans as a vagabond for 18 months, sending money to his family who moved to Tuscaloosa, Ala. He spent as little on himself as possible until he was finally able to get an apartment for the next two years.

In an interview a few months ago, Louisiana Secretary of State Jay Dardenne said the preservation project would not be happening if Young hadn’t approached the state with his idea and figured out how to translate that idea into action.

“We’re in charge of securing the treasures of the states, in both good times and bad times,” Dardenne said.

Not only did Young have to seek out exhibit space for the project, the artists and the work, he also had to advertise and publicize his project, which he turned into an official nonprofit organization.

More than 100 New Orleans artists’ work was represented in “40 Days and 40 Nights,” a collection that will forever remain a part of Louisiana’s state archives. The artwork includes original pieces of literature, porcelain, painting, clay, music, film, jewelry, glass and sculpture.

Young said he became tired of being “the devastation photographer,” and in August 2008 he moved to Carrboro because he said he wanted a place that had earth to it. Now when Young looks out his window, he sees beauty instead of the destruction he faced every day for 18 months after the storm.

“Since the hurricane, I’ve seen a dedication in him that I have never seen before. There are positive things that come from it, and the drive he had showed since the tragedy is so strong,” said Max Young, the photographer’s 25-year-old daughter, who is a nutritionist in Denver.

Young is putting together a DVD with the final project that he hopes to distribute to all of the artists, the partners that helped with funding and the state officials involved with archiving “40 Days and 40 Nights.”

Carly Brantmeyer is a is a UNC student writing for the Carrboro Commons, a bi-weekly online lab newspaper for Jock Lauterer’s Community Journalism class at the School of Journalism and Mass Communication.

THE CARRBORO CITIZEN

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Debit & EBT

Briefs

Town seeks public input on greenways

The Town of Carrboro will hold two workshops in May and June to gather input as staff develops conceptual plans for greenways along Bolin Creek, Jones Creek and Morgan Creek.

A workshop on May 20 will focus on plans for a Bolin Creek greenway and another along Jones Creek. The workshop will be held at the Homestead Community Center at 600 Homestead Road from 4:30 to 7:30 p.m.

In addition, the town will hold a workshop on June 15 to gather input for plans for a Morgan Creek greenway. The workshop will be held at Frank Porter Graham Elementary School at 101 Smith Level Road from 4:30 to 7 p.m.

Town staff, project consultants and members of the Greenways Commission will be available to discuss the projects at both workshops. For more information, visit townofcarrboro.org/AdvBoards/Greenways/ResourceInfo.htm

Carolina North traffic forum

Neighbors for Responsible Growth will sponsor a community discussion, "Carolina North: Don't Get Stuck in Traffic," on May 3 from 4 to 6 p.m. at the Homestead Community Center.

The discussion will focus exclusively on traffic and transportation issues for Carolina North. In addition, participants will have the opportunity to discuss possible solutions with elected and UNC officials.

Walk to benefit mental illness organization

NAMIWalk for the Mind of America will be held on Saturday on the Dorothea Dix campus in Raleigh.

The walk will benefit the National Alliance on Mental Illness of North Carolina. The organization hopes to raise \$110,000 and host 500 walkers.

The 2.3-mile walk will start at 10 a.m., with check-in at 9 a.m. For more information, visit naminc.org

Bus to offer free dental/medical checkups

The dental/medical bus offering free dental checkups and more will be at Cane Creek Baptist Church in Hillsborough on June 13 from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

The bus will offer free services, including dental checkups, x-rays, fillings, blood-pressure and heart-rate checks, health update information and more.

Pre-registration is required. To register, call Chris Green at 933-5105 or Chris Fiore at 643-1755. Cane Creek Baptist Church is located at 6901 Orange Grove Road in Hillsborough.

Low-cost rabies vaccinations

The Orange County Animal Services Department will offer a low-cost rabies vaccination clinic on Friday from 1 to 5 p.m.

The clinic will be held at the Orange County Animal Shelter on Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard. The vaccination fee is \$5, which must be paid in cash. Only one-year vaccinations will be offered. For information, call 245-2075 or visit co.orange.nc.us/animalservices/rabies.asp

OBITUARIES

Julia Blackwood

Mrs. Julia Blackwood, 88, died Easter weekend at her home in Chapel Hill.

Julia was born in Clinton, NC to Herman Stewart and Jenny B. Merritt. She came to Chapel Hill as the young bride of Eugene M. Blackwood. Soon after, she went to work as a secretary at the American Tobacco Company in Durham.

She was a very active member of Orange United Methodist Church in Chapel Hill. During her years there, she served as the secretary for the Administrative Board, church Treasurer, sang in the chancel choir, taught Sunday School and was the primary contributor to "Facing Tomorrow, Understanding Yesterday," the only history book ever published about OUMC. Until her death, she hosted a church bible study at her house every Tuesday evening.

One of her friends said, "I wish you had known Julia in the many idyllic years she had with Eugene at the farm. What happy gatherings we had there! Sunday School picnics, I remember especially. The place felt like heaven. And I guess you could say that Julia and Eugene were the 'heavenly hosts.'"

Mrs. Blackwood was preceded in death by her husband, Eugene M. Blackwood, and a brother who was killed in World War II. She is survived by a sister, Edna Boineau, and brother-in-law, Glenn Boineau, and many loving cousins, nieces and nephews.

A funeral service was held April 18 at Orange United Methodist Church, officiated by the Rev. D. Ray Warren.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be given in Mrs. Blackwood's name to the United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR), c/o Orange United Methodist Church, 1220 Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd, Chapel Hill, NC, 27514, or the Durham Rescue Mission, 507 E. Knox St., Durham, NC, 27701.

Arrangements by Walker's Funeral Home of Chapel Hill.

Clara Ward Hardee Horton

Clara Ward Hardee Horton, 91, wife of Fred B. Horton for 53 years until his death in 2005, went to be with her Lord and Savior on Thursday, April 23, 2009.

She was born in Boardman in Columbus County on July 6, 1917 to Maude Hardee and Charles Van Ward, who both predeceased her. She had two brothers, Paul and Ralph Ward, who are also deceased. She was adopted at age three by her maternal grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. T.D. Hardee of Carrboro. Clara had five brothers, Trusie, Dawson, Everett, Joe and Bill Hardee; and seven sisters, Mary, Bertha, Lonie, Dora, Maggie, Maude and Girtline. All predeceased her. She was educated in Carrboro schools.

She is survived by two sons, Billy Van Blake (Cheryl) of Raleigh, granddaughters, Suzanne, Bobbie Ann and Mary Ann, and two great-granddaughters, Heydan and Jordan Holt; and Bobby Ward Blake (Darlene) of Carrboro, two granddaughters, Rebecca Lewis and Beth Anne Beyle (Jon), and five great grandchildren, Taylor, Jordan, Jon Ward Beyle, and J.C. and Blake Lewis.

Clara was a devoted member of Carrboro Baptist Church, now HillSong Church. Clara retired from Pacific Woolen Mill and BVD Plant. After her retirement, she kept children in her home, whom she loved just like her own grandchildren, Jason Crawford and Will Hackney, and many others.

Clara was a devoted wife, mother, grandmother and the world's best cook. She had a beautiful smile and was a friend to all who knew her. Her legacy

of God first and devotion to family are treasured traits. She will be greatly missed.

Services were held Sunday, April 26. Burial was at Westwood Cemetery, Carrboro. Memorials may be made to UNC Hospice.

Arrangements by Walker's Funeral Home of Chapel Hill.

Clyde Ray Jones

Clyde Ray Jones, 81, of Mebane died Monday April 20, 2009 at his home. He was born May 17, 1927 in Chatham County and raised in Orange County. He was one of eight children born to the late Mil-lard and Thelma Jones.

He is survived by his beloved wife, Jeanette Jones; his son, Sam (Joan); stepdaughters, Angie (Johnny) Johnson, Candi (Jimmy) Dykes and Lysa (David) May; grandchildren, Joseph and Joshua Jones; step-grandchildren, Lauren and Aaron Johnson, Ashley (Matt) Netzel and Travis Dykes, B.J. and Kyle Moffett, and Tara and Colby May; and step-great grandchild, James Netzel. Survivors also include brothers Roy (Clairice) Jones and Ed Jones; sisters Marie (J.D) Zedaker and Nancy (Robert) Dodd; and numerous nieces and nephews. His former wife, Mildred, also survives. He was predeceased by three brothers, Clarence, Raymond and Billy.

Clyde served his country in the Coast Guard during WWII. He was a barber at the Friendly Barber Shop in Carrboro for numerous years and a volunteer firefighter with the Carrboro Fire Department. He was also a founding member and served as chief of the South Orange Rescue Squad, retiring from his career as a paramedic with Orange County Emergency Services.

Clyde was a natural born storyteller who entertained all with his great sense of humor. He was an avid fisherman and loved to cook. Next to his love for his family, his greatest joy

was supporting his Carolina Tar Heels. He will be missed by all.

Funeral services were held Friday, April 24 at 2 p.m. at Effland United Methodist Church. Flowers are acceptable or donations can be sent to the Effland United Methodist Church, P.O. Box 121 Effland NC 27243.

Arrangements by Walker's Funeral Home of Chapel Hill.

Mary Evelyn Jaber Laws

Mrs. Mary Evelyn Jaber Laws, 86, 1720 Palmers Grove Church Road, died Monday, April 20, 2009. She was one of the founding members of Holy Family Catholic Church in Hillsborough. She had a passion for sewing and working in her beautiful flower gardens. She was retired from Home Security Life Insurance Co. in Durham.

Surviving are three sons, Tony Laws (Patsy), Burlington, Ken Laws (Susan), Raleigh, and Freddy Laws, Hillsborough; two brothers, Eddie Jaber (Becky), Wake Forest, and Tony Jaber, Many, La.; six grandchildren, Lee Laws and Chad Laws (Carly) of Burlington, Greg Laws (Amy), Florida, Chelsie Laws, California, Kaylyn Laws and Hannah Laws of Raleigh; and three great-grandchildren. Mrs. Laws was predeceased by her parents, Hannah and Antone Jaber, her husband, Willie Laws, her son, Tim Laws, her brothers, Farris Jaber and George Jaber, and her sister, Alice J. Parker.

The family wishes to thank the nurses and staff at Edgewood Place, A.R.M.C. and Durham Regional Hospitals for their loving care. We also wish to thank Evelyn Corbett, Sheila Worth, Marie Willis and Renay Lee for their special love and care of our mother.

Funeral services were held at Holy Family Catholic Church. Arrangements by Walker's Funeral Home of Hillsborough.



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ACROSS

1 Songwriters' org

6 Old Glory feature

10 — jongg

13 Ali —

17 Playground fixture

18 Flipped

19 Inland sea

21 It multiplies by dividing

23 Islamic text

24 Columnist Bombeck

25 Mrs. Zeus

26 Astronomer Carl

27 Catchall abbr.

28 Party pots

30 Bandleader Hampton

32 Gusto

33 Start of a remark by George

39 Pound of poetry

40 Forster's "Howards"

41 Film division

44 Swerves dangerously

47 — de-lance

48 Spear-headed

51 Colorless

52 Ship's slarmer

53 Salin supply

54 Part 2 of remark

56 — du

57 Diable

58 Lost one's tail?

59 It can be wicked

61 Writer O'Brien

62 — Tin Tin

63 Over-dramatic thespian

64 Nichols' "Irish Rose"

67 Mont-gomery's st.

69 Part 3 of remark

77 Humorist George

78 Pine product

79 Affliction

80 Palindromic Parseghian

81 Old tub

84 Rock's Fleet-wood —

85 Part of a diet

88 Ferris-wheel unit

89 Part 4 of remark

92 Time Warner partner

95 Sharpen a skill

96 Location

97 Even so

98 Shack

99 Occur earlier

101 Croc's kin

102 Droop

103 Director Mira

104 Tin —

105 End of remark

116 Chianti, e.g.

117 Keen insight

118 Graceland name

119 roll

120 Above it all

122 Mr. Ed's mother

123 "Clinton's Ditch"

125 Buffalo Bill, for one

127 Tenor Mario

128 North Carolina campus

129 Baseball's Sammy

130 Disburs

131 Nourish

132 Humorist Buchwald

133 Manuscript imperative

134 Bolger/Lahr co-star

3 She brought out the beast in men

4 Periodon-tists' org.

5 Kind of fudge

6 Shorthand, shortly

7 Museum piece

8 It's up your sleeve

9 Get it

10 '75 Diana Ross film

11 Stadium

12 Saraglio

13 Coll. degrees

14 Bowled over

15 Sire

16 Disconcert

20 Composer Schirfin

22 Up-front money

29 Plutarch character

31 "The Woman —" ('94 film)

34 Nary a soul

35 It suits many

36 41 Down, for one

37 Calvary inscription

41 Mr. Agnew

42 Neighbor of Nev.

43 Skater Berezhnaya

44 Broche bit

45 Pitch in

46 Put in stitches

47 Crafty critter

48 Top

49 Tons of time

50 Heredity

52 Responsi-bility

55 Shipshape

57 Israel's

58 Place to Barak

59 Nap

60 "Just — thought!"

65 Bach's "Bist du — mir"

66 Travelers' stops

67 Dwelling

68 Turn throw-aways

70 Time to crow?

71 Monk's title

72 Sum up

73 Swill con-noisseur

74 Implied

75 Urania's sister

76 Not as common

81 Farm feature

82 — gelida manina" (Puccini aria)

83 — bran

84 Encountered

85 Actress Maureen

87 Fate

90 Bangkok resident

91 "Les Miserables" author

93 Frill

94 Rent

96 Amritsar attire

100 Gloom

101 Parsley, perhaps

102 Nap

104 Word form for "environ-ment"

105 Ellipse

106 Mideastern melange

107 — fell swoop

108 June, but not July

109 Florida city

110 Colossal commotion

111 Elevate

112 Actor Williams

113 It gets wet as it dries

114 Absurd

115 Sweet treat

121 In thing

124 Disintegrate

126 — Locka, FL

DOWN

1 Crooked

2 Arboreal animal

FILM CLIP

CitizenCryptoquote By Martin Brody

For example, YAPHCYAPLM is WORDSWORTH. One letter stands for another. In this sample, A is used for the two O's, Y for the two W's, etc.. Apostrophes, punctuation, the length and formation of the words are all hints.

"Differences"

M N X D J X D Y F F E ,
Y F F E Z D A Z T P Z X M X H
R T R D Z J C F G S R D S
R Y S Z P Z S O . M N X D
M F J X D Y F F E , Z S Z T I Q T S
R N F Q T X N F B H Y N F G X .
- J R G A R G X S J X R H , R Y X
R D S N G F C F B F A Z T S

Find the answer in the puzzle answer section.

Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

2				8	7	1		6
	8			1	9			
		4	9				5	
8		2		3			9	
		7	8		3			
	6				5		2	
		1		4	5		7	
4					3			1
	2		7				9	

Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ★ ★ ★

★ Moderate ★ ★ Challenging
★ ★ ★ HOO BOY!

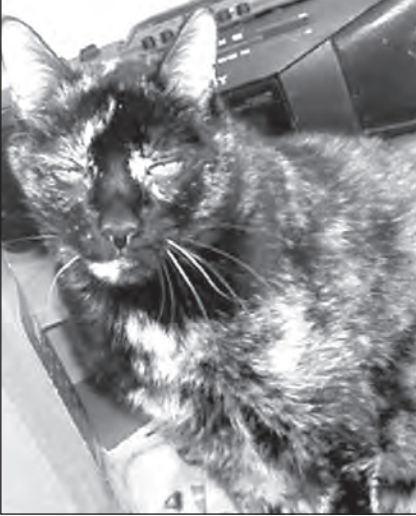
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PETS OF THE WEEK

PAWS4EVER — My name is Lila! I am a 7-year-old Tortie, also known as Lila. Will you be the one to take my calm kitty-ness home? I love those who give me chin scratches and pet me gently, and soon I will adore you and be asking for more.

I have a "squeek" as a meow that will charm you completely. I would prefer a child-free home. I'm looking for a place where I can feel comfortable just lounging around. I've lived successfully with other cats and dogs. Please come by the shelter and take a look, at Paws4Ever, 6311 Nicks Road, Mebane, or call 304-2300. You can also go online at paws4ever.org

ORANGE COUNTY ANIMAL SERVICES — Say hello to Sonny! This big boy is around 6 years old and very calm. He is still adjusting to the shelter and is ready to find a home of his own soon! He previously lived in a home with kids and frequent visitors, and did well with both. He lived with another cat as well, but would prefer to be the only kitty in his new home. He loves to be petted and spends most of his days people watching and lounging. He's declawed in the front, so he needs an indoor-only home! Won't you visit Sonny today at Orange County's Animal Shelter, 1081 MLK Jr. Blvd, Chapel Hill or call 967-7383. You can also see him online at co.orange.nc.us/animalservices/adoption.asp.



FOR THE RECORD

In pursuit of human rights

I'm increasingly convinced that the reason why human equality, human dignity and social pluralism are illusive in American society is that we do not have what Miguel de Unamuno called "el público" and Alexis de Tocqueville called "the public spirit." Instead, American communities, towns and cities are segregated by race, class and citizenship status, with withered downtowns and with no spaces for people to discuss, argue and talk across those divides of race, class and citizenship. It is sometimes said that Americans live, worship and work in their individual silos, with a silo for each neighborhood, each church and each workplace. There can be no deep shared conception under these circumstances of collective solidarity or the common good, and of authentic pluralism.

True, within each community, parishioners in dozens of churches may celebrate one another's equality every Sunday; and during the week, co-workers in hundreds of work settings may affirm one another's dignity. But these celebrations and affirmations of shared humanity are within tiny homogenous clusters of people and do nothing to advance collective solidarity, the common good and social pluralism. In these silos, people simply affirm the equality and dignity of people who are just like themselves. It is far from the cacophonous el público that Unamuno described and the vibrant public spirit that Tocqueville found in American communities early in the 20th century.

As a scholar-activist, I have run repeatedly into constraints to sparking conditions that would promote deep forms of equality, publicness, inclusion and social pluralism. Part of the problem has to do with local governments and people themselves viewing human rights as political and potentially divisive, but for the most part the fractionalization of the population by race, class and citizenship is the major obstacle.

Where is the public space anyway? To distribute fliers on a city plaza, one needs two permits, one from the police department and another from city hall. At least this is the case in Chapel Hill, and I suspect it is widespread practice. Most residential communities and all shopping malls prohibit the distribution of fliers to announce an event. There are no free spaces in town to hold a community-wide meeting, although there are abundant sports fields that are free. Therefore, having a public meeting about, say, the rights of migrants or the rights of members of the GLBT community is not easy. The constraints are: first, the silo problem; second, anxiety that these are "political" issues and therefore inherently divisive; and, third, city ordinances and property rights.

Once we have cleared all these constraints, our events have been successful; small, but attracting a broad cross-section of the community, including immigrants and people of color. The Human Rights Center of Chapel Hill & Carrboro is unique in that it is a community-based, not a university-based human rights center. There are now quite a few university human rights centers, but their priorities are research and scholarship, whereas ours are advocacy for marginalized groups and to provide popular education in the community. The center officially opened in Carrboro in February 2009, in the poorest immigrant housing community in the county, although it has been functioning, thanks to undergraduates, for nearly a year.

By adopting the center's proposal on April 21, 2009, the Town of Carrboro became a Human Rights City. Specifically, this declaration by the town accompanied the adoption of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. The significance of this decision will become clearer over time, but for the center it means legitimacy and that we can now get to work in a focused way to pursue our twin objectives of advocacy and popular education.

What is the larger context? Carrboro is one city among 17 in the world that has declared itself a Human Rights City and the second in the U.S., after Washington, D.C. This is part of a global movement, spearheaded by Shulamith Koenig, recipient of the 2003 U.N. Human Rights Achievement Award and president of The Peoples Movement for Human Rights Learning. By adopting the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the Town of Carrboro has explicitly embraced the principles of equality, inclusion, social pluralism and the recognition of universal human dignity. Moreover, by adopting the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the town has elevated human rights to uncontested superior standing and depoliticized their content. This is the place to start. That is, it is the beginning of the pursuit of human rights.

— JUDITH BLAU

Judith Blau is a professor of sociology at UNC, president of Sociologists without Border, U.S. and director of The Human Rights Center of Chapel Hill & Carrboro. Her email is jrblau@email.unc.edu

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Published Thursdays by Carrboro Citizen, LLC



Frustrating, but better than the alternative

BY TOM HIGH

The politics of misplaced frustration subsequent to last week's Carrboro Board of Aldermen vote to reject the N.C. Department of Transportation's latest "improvement" project for Smith Level Road led a frustrated Mayor Mark Chilton, who cast the lone vote in favor of the project, to vent thusly:

"I'm frustrated because there was an awful lot of rhetoric here tonight that suggests that this current situation is somehow safe, that the current situation is somehow acceptable, that it would be OK to wait another 20 years to have pedestrian improvements on Smith Level Road and Culbreth Road."

The "rhetoric" referred to during the packed meeting, from a public unanimously opposed to the project, indicated no such thing. No one who spoke said the current situation is safe, acceptable, nor did anyone jump for joy at the thought of another 20-year wait for sidewalks and bike lanes.

What was expressed, in firm comments from an active citizenry, was that the price paid to acquire sidewalks and bike lanes in exchange for an inappropriate multi-lane monstrosity which was antithetical to the culture and character of Carrboro would be, simply put, unacceptable.

One could argue that Mayor Chilton's frustration was, to a large degree, self-inflicted. He was the deal maker who gave NCDOT the idea, in a behind-closed-doors meeting with NCDOT back in 2007, that a multi-lane agreement in exchange for a roundabout, sidewalks and bike lanes was acceptable.

And so, as speaker after speaker rose to denounce the project, the mayor was caught in the all-too-often political paradox of trying to defend a position rather than supporting what was in the best interest of the town.

Part of his defense consisted of reading emails from citizens upset at the lack of sidewalks on Smith Level, a position shared by virtually everyone who negotiates that corridor with any regularity. What he failed to take into account before striking this deal was the level of upset a multi-lane proposal would engender.

For the mayor and any of the board members frustrated by the emails concerning the lack of sidewalks on Smith Level, a suggested response to same:

"Thank you for your email. NCDOT has so far refused to consider sidewalks in any improvement project for Smith Level unless the Town of Carrboro accepts a multi-lane cross section or the town agrees to pay for the cost of the sidewalks. We cannot accept a multi-lane cross section, as it is economically unsound, would destroy multi-modal interconnectivity and would compromise the safety of pedestrians, bicyclists and drivers due to the resulting high-speed vehicular traffic. The town currently is looking into ways to acquire funding without having to raise taxes. Any ideas/suggestions you might have would be welcome. Thank you for your interest in this matter."

Another frustration: School board member Lisa Stuckey spoke

at the meeting and reiterated yet again the concern the school board has for the safety of the proposed roundabout at the intersection of Smith Level and Rock Haven Road. Is this the same school board so concerned about the safety of roundabouts that they put not one, but two roundabouts on the Carrboro High School site?

Or perhaps like Mayor Chilton, the school board is trying to defend a position, a position that led them to reject the idea of a roundabout at this intersection when Carrboro High was under construction, even though it would have been cheaper to build and research indicates that roundabouts are safer than signalized intersections: for vehicles, bicyclists and, yes, pedestrians, even when they happen to be students.

Kudos to the board of aldermen for voting the Smith Level proposal down, especially when many of them had to reverse a vote made two years earlier. Believe me, the citizens who live and work and travel along Smith Level share their frustration at the lack of sidewalks and bike lanes.

We must endeavor to persevere, and overcome. Given the intransigence of NCDOT, that probably means coming up with the funding ourselves, hopefully via a federal or state grant. With good fortune, that will happen before another 20 years passes. If it does, great. If not, the status quo would still be better, and safer, than a multi-lane Smith Level Road.

Frustrating, but still better.

Tom High is a Chapel Hill resident.

The storm before the storm

CHRIS FITZSIMON

Tuesday morning began at the Legislative Building with officials with the Department of Public Instruction dispelling many of the common myths about the agency's staffing levels, making a strong case for House budget writers to reject the Senate's proposal to cut 300 jobs at the department.

That task looked a lot tougher not long after the meeting, when Gov. Beverly Perdue announced that the latest revenue figures show the budget shortfall for the current fiscal year has grown to \$3.3 billion, more than a billion dollars more than the last estimate.

Perdue signed an executive order calling for furloughs of all state employees, who will lose 0.5 percent of their pay and can take 10 hours off before June 30, the end of the fiscal year. That move understandably upset teachers and state employees, and reportedly legislative leaders weren't wild about it either when Perdue told them about it Monday.

Perdue's order comes the same day that radio ads from the State Employees Association attacking Rep. Margaret Dickson began airing. The commercial criticizes Dickson for co-sponsoring a bill allowing furloughs to address the budget crisis. No word yet if ads are planned against the governor.

The furloughs save the state \$65 million, a fraction of the \$1.1 billion needed to balance this year's budget. Perdue also plans to use money from the state's savings account, \$400 million of federal stimulus money that was slated to help with budget problems in the next two years and money that her office says will come from "captur-

ing more special funds."

No word yet on which special funds those might be or exactly how much is coming from the savings account, but those details were brushed aside by the news of the furloughs. It is hard to imagine Perdue couldn't have found \$65 million more in the special funds or taken the additional amount out of the state's rainy-day fund.

But the executive order sends a message to lawmakers. Perdue clearly was not thrilled that legislators didn't agree that she already had the power to furlough state workers. It's also a very public display of her willingness to take on the State Employees Association and the North Carolina Association of Educators.

The losers, of course, are state workers and teachers, who will not only give up \$250 in the next two months if they make \$50,000 a year, but will also pay significantly more for health care once the recently approved changes to the State Health Plan go into effect. And the news could get worse before it gets better.

The use of federal stimulus money now creates another hole in next year's budget and state budget officials say the shortfall for the current year could still grow more, prompting worries that more furloughs could be on the way.

The other story from Tuesday's announcement is the effect it has on the legislative debate over next year's budget. Elaine Mejia with the N.C. Budget and Tax Center points out that the new revenue numbers mean the House budget writers will have to find almost double the \$1.3 billion in cuts the Senate proposed unless they make the wise choice of raising more than the \$500 million in new revenue included in the Senate plan.

The Senate proposal to expand the tax base while lowering some of the rates is a good place to start and so is closing a loophole that allows multi-state corporations to avoid paying taxes that North Carolina-based companies pay.

The anti-government crowd is renewing its call for cuts alone to balance the budget, a proposal made even more absurd by Tuesday's news. They are using a misleading poll to claim that the public opposes the Senate plan to expand the sales tax to more services while reducing the overall rate. The conservative Pope Civitas Institute says 52 percent of voters are against the plan, while 33 percent support it.

The question in the survey mentions haircuts first in the list of services that would be taxed under the Senate proposal. But haircuts would not be taxed, a point Sen. Dan Clodfelter made clear last week when the plan was released. Then there is the problem with public opinion polls and taxes in general.

Wonder what people would say if you asked them if they would support making the tax system fairer by lowering the rate and adding services, while raising revenue to protect their child's school from devastating cuts?

Tuesday's news was grim, but it doesn't mean schools can stand even more cuts or that mental hospitals now need less funding to take care of patients. The job of lawmakers has not changed. It is still to protect vital state services and balance the budget fairly.

Chris Fitzsimon is executive director of N.C. Policy Watch.

LETTERS

The wrong approach

I applaud and thank the BOCC for their decision to delay the vote on the Howell forest property in rural Orange County in order to gather additional information. It was a nice Earth Day gift. Consider this following quote from the Natural Resources Defense Council:

"The transportation sector is the second-largest and fastest-growing contributor to global warming pollution in the United States, in large part due to steadily rising number of miles that cars and trucks travel each year...While there has been a federal focus on increasing fuel economy of vehicles and decreasing carbon content in fuels, these strategies alone will not be enough to slow and reverse overall greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions from the transportation sector. *The number of miles that vehicles travel is the critical, but often forgotten, 'third leg' of the transportation tool.*"

Turns out, this Earth Day gift was just a stocking stuffer, because the Howell property still remains the *only* site under consideration. It is both far from the source of trash production and far from any major highway. To access I-40 or I-85 from the Howell site, you must either drive back where you came from in town or drive in the opposite direction from the trash's ultimate destination by going up 54 West. Do we really want fingers pointed at Orange County as a prime example of our contribution to greenhouse gas emissions from such excessive and unnecessary mileage? We shouldn't have to pay the resulting huge gas bill indefinitely, and we may not be able to without cutting other areas of service.

The most direct route from Hillsborough would be up and down Orange Grove Road, and from Chapel Hill North, up and down Dairyland. These roads are heavily trafficked by farm machinery and bicyclists. Add to all the above, the fact that the site hosts wetlands and potential endangered wildlife, has no running water and no sewer, and does not perc. Additionally, no studies have been done about how runoff will impact the Haw River.

Yet, what are the pros? As articulated by Commissioner Jacobs, there are *only two*: the unincorporated area does not have any elected officials to say "no" (except the BOCC themselves), and that Mr. Howell was a willing seller. Commissioner Yuhasz's comment that "We will go out of our way to make it work" should bother anyone who cares about the environment and about minimizing our tax expenses. Good leadership from our BOCC would include nixing this bad idea, and starting an honest search for a fiscally and environmentally responsible solution.

SUSAN HOUCK
Bingham Township

Not a fact

The April 23 *For The Record* regarding Smith Level Road says, "The fact that such a heavily traveled road and key artery into town is unsafe for bicyclists..." If it is a "fact" there ought to be collision statistics supporting that assertion, but there are not. Further, collisions don't prove a road is unsafe because the collisions could be due to foolish bicyclist behavior, an all-too-common problem.

If a motorist assaults a bicyclist is the road dangerous? So the "fact" is actually merely the oft-repeated false perception that a road is dangerous if it doesn't have bike lanes (or shoulders) and safe if it does. Can we get past the silliness that roads are dangerous when it comes to bicycling, and admit that any danger is really behaviorally based?

WAYNE PEIN
Chapel Hill

LETTERS POLICY

Letters should be no more than 425 words in length and must be accompanied by the author's name, address and contact information. We will publish one letter per author per month. Lengthy letters written in longhand will mysteriously become lost. Typed letters are preferred and email even more so. That said, send your letters to:

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Carrboro day!

Sunday, May 3
1 - 7 pm
on the lawn
at Town Hall
(301 West Main St.)



All citizens of Carrboro and surrounding communities are cordially invited to come to the 14th annual Carrboro Day celebration on Sunday, May 3rd. The theme this year is “Celebrating a Sustainable Community” in recognition of Carrboro’s ongoing achievements in this area. **Remember:** Carrboro Day is a zero-waste event. Please help the town achieve this goal by putting recyclable materials in the proper containers.

Music at Town Hall
12:45-1:15 p.m. — Village Band
1:30-2:20 — Gilbert Neal
2:30-3:20 — Skeedaddle
3:30-4:20 — Nikki Meets the Hibachi
4:30-5:20 — Will McFarlane
5:40-6:30 — Tim Smith

Special events
2:30 p.m. — Paws 4Ever Drill Team
2:00-4:00 p.m. —
Special appearance by Mother Goose
4:00-5:30 p.m. — Readings by local poets in the Town Hall Board Room
3-5 p.m. — Family games
2-4 p.m. — Family crafts
2-3 p.m. — Carrboro history video

All-day events
Book and baked goods sale by the Friends of the Carrboro Library, 1-5 p.m.
Boy Scouts’ hot dog sale, 1-5 p.m.
Police Department, Carrboro Transportation Board, Fire Department, Public Works, Orange Emergency Medical Services and OWASA displays, 1-6 p.m.
Annual plant exchange sponsored by the Carrboro Garden Club, 1-5 p.m.
Carrboro Day will be celebrated at Carrboro Town Hall on West Main Street. If it rains, most activities will relocate to the Carrboro Century Center at Main, Weaver and Greensboro streets.
For more information, visit carrboroday.com or carrboro.com/carrboroday



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FREE



WE GAVE AWAY OUR SPARE ROOSTER to a nice fellow who's starting a flock, and saw our ad in the Carrboro Citizen. If you have a little extra male poultry cruising the yard, you might try placing a classified in your community newspaper! It's easy, cheap and effective.



With caution, you can get close enough to see the greenish flowers of poison ivy.

FLORA
FROM PAGE 1

Native-American ethnobotany references describe countless medicinal, culinary and other uses, including grinding tubers for making bread, using stems and leaves for herbal teas and salves, use of the thorns as a type of acupuncture, tying thorny vines together for protective barriers and using vines in basket making, a rich heritage indeed.

In addition to wild grapes, you'll find greenish flowers on that vine-

to-avoid, poison ivy, *Toxicodendron radicans*. Now, I don't expect many of you even think of getting close enough to see the flowers. You have to be very careful not to touch any part of the vine as you take that closer look at the clusters of green flower buds, opening with cream-colored petals and contrasting orange stamens. Poison ivy is another valuable food plant for pollinating insects as well as birds and small mammals, and the fall color can provide spectacular red tints

where the vine is climbing high in pines.

The best way to observe poison ivy flowers is with binoculars. I use binoculars for wildflower viewing all the time. You can take closer looks at flowers without leaving the trail and you certainly won't have to walk through the poison ivy.

For the next couple of weeks, keep your eyes alert for the yellow-green flowers hidden under the leaves of these vines and perhaps you can discover an advantage for being green.



Subir Roy: One of Claudia's Children, 1950

Claudia C. Cannady, 83, is a walking history book of Chapel Hill. She remembers names and faces, and claims dozens of "children," including Subir Roy (CHHS '59), who in the early '50s delivered her newspaper when she worked at Western Union (on N. Columbia where Investment Titles is now). "He's one of my children," she vowed, recalling a rainy day when "Shuby" came in "with that big ol' long black raincoat — and gave me a hug — and he's been mine ever since!" The link has lasted; Dr. Roy, chief of oncology at Women's and Children's Hospital in L.A. and professor of OBGYN at the University of Southern California, is a regular visitor to Claudia's apartment on Martin Luther King Blvd. in Chapel Hill. In this snapshot, presumably taken by a family member around 1950, Subir strikes a prophetic pose in front of his family home at 500 Pritchard Ave. In high school, he would distinguish himself on the gridiron as an ice-in-his-veins starting quarterback and team leader. But that's another story — and another photo — for another time.



A THOUSAND WORDS
BY JOCK LAUTERER

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